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PART-TIME WORKERS, TASMANIA (REVISED) : OCTOBER 1990

(Replaces PART-TIME WORKERS, TASMANIA issued on 6 November 1991)

MAIN FEATURES

- In October 1990 the ABS ran a survey to determine the number of persons who had worked part-time in the 12 months preceding the survey or who were working part-time at time of the survey.
- Almost a third of part-time workers gave "only wish to work part-time" as the main reason for part-time work.
- The main occupation group for female part-time workers was sales persons and personal service workers.

NOTES

Users should exercise caution when using the statistical estimates derived from the survey.

Estimates of 3000 have a relative standard error of 15 per cent.

Estimates of 1230 or less have a relative standard error of 25 per cent or more.

Estimates with a standard error greater than 25 per cent are preceded by an asterisk (*).

Estimates of 300 or less have a relative standard error of 50 per cent or more. Estimates with a relative standard error greater than 50 per cent have not been published, and are indicated by a double asterisk (**).

An estimated 51 400 persons were working, or had worked part-time in the 12 months, preceding the survey. Out of this total:

- Just over 77 per cent were women;
- Forty-four per cent had (or had been in) regular casual part-time employment;
- Almost 18 per cent had permanent part-time employment.

For further details of standard error see the Explanatory Notes.

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PHONE INQUIRIES

- *about these statistics and the availability of other unpublished data* — contact John Pollard on Hobart (002) 20 5804.

OTHER INQUIRIES

- *for other general inquiries including copies of publications* — telephone the Information Officer on Hobart (002) 20 5800.
- *for counter inquiries* — The Tasmanian Office of the Bureau is located on the 1st Floor, 175 Collins Street, Hobart (GPO Box 66A, Hobart, 7001).

TABLE 1. PART-TIME WORKERS (a): NATURE OF PART-TIME WORK

Type of part-time work	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
Permanent part-time	1.3	11.2	7.9	19.8	9.2	17.9
Temporary part-time	**	**	*1.2	*3.0	1.4	2.7
Regular casual	3.7	31.9	19.0	47.7	22.7	44.2
Irregular casual	2.1	18.1	7.0	17.6	9.1	17.7
Other part-time	4.3	37.1	4.7	11.8	9.0	17.5
Total	11.6	100.0	39.8	100.0	51.4	100.0

(a) Worked in, or were working in, a job where the usual hours were one or more but less than 35 per week. Includes part-time workers who worked at any time during the twelve months ending October 1990.

Age and Sex of Part-time Workers

The age distribution of part-time workers differed markedly for men and women.

Twenty-nine per cent of part-time male workers were in the 15-19 age group. For women, only 11.6 per cent were in this age group. Most female part-time workers were in the age groups 25-34 and 35-44; 25 per cent and 33 per cent of female part-time workers respectively were in each age group.

TABLE 2. PART-TIME WORKERS (a): AGE AND SEX

Age group years	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
15-19	3.4	29.3	4.6	11.6	8.0	15.6
20-24	1.9	16.4	3.5	8.8	5.4	10.5
25-34	2.3	19.8	9.9	24.9	12.3	23.9
35-44	*0.9	*7.8	13.0	32.7	13.9	27.0
45-54	*1.1	*9.5	6.7	16.8	7.8	15.2
55-64	1.4	12.1	2.1	5.3	3.5	6.8
65+	*0.6	5.2	**	**	*0.6	*1.2
Total	11.6	100.0	39.8	100.0	51.4	100.0

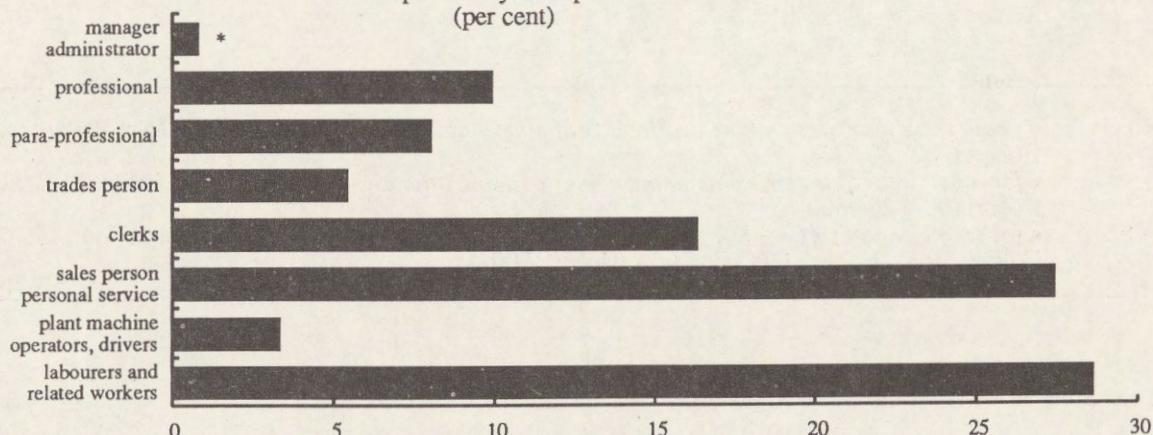
(a) Worked in, or were working in, a job where the usual hours of work were one or more but less than 35 per week. Includes part-time workers who worked at any time during the twelve months ending October 1990.

Occupation and Industry

Two broad occupation groups accounted for over half of the part-time workers:

- labourers and related workers (e.g. cleaners) accounted for 14 700 part-time workers, 29 per cent of the total;
- sales persons and personal service workers accounted for 14 100 (27 per cent) part-time workers;
- labourers and related workers made up 43 per cent of male part-time workers and 24 per cent of female part-time workers.

The main occupation group for female part-time workers was sales persons and personal service workers. This group accounted for 31 per cent of female part-time workers.

CHART 1. PART-TIME WORKERS -
Proportion by Occupation
(per cent)

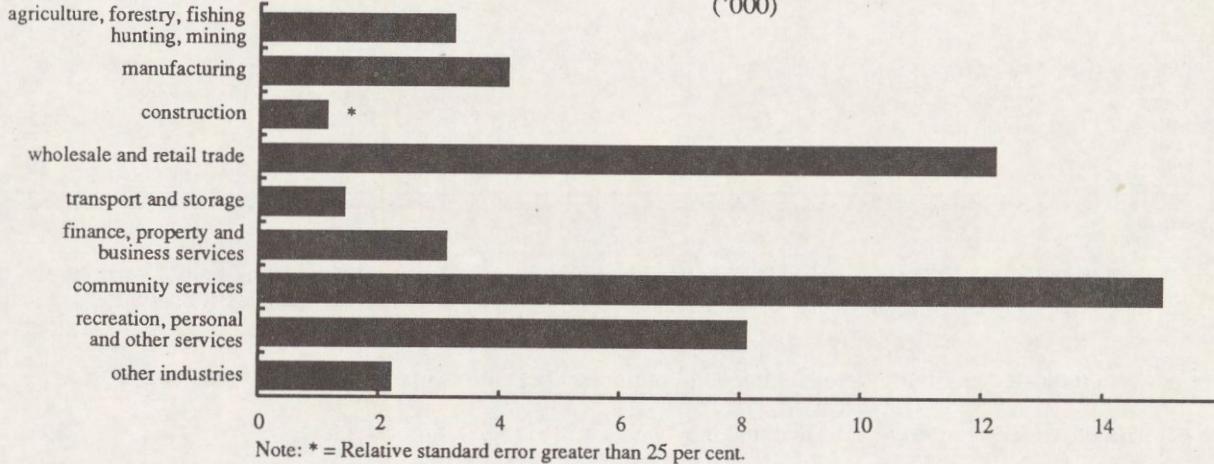
Note: * = Relative standard error greater than 25 per cent.

Seventy per cent of part-time workers were in three industries - community services (31 per cent), wholesale and retail trade (24 per cent) and recreational, personal and other services (16 per cent).

The main industry of part-time employment for males was wholesale and retail trade; 22 per cent of part-time male workers were in this industry.

Principal industries of employment for part-time women workers were community services (36 per cent of part-time female workers); wholesale and retail trade (24 per cent) and recreational, personal and other services (16 per cent).

CHART 2. PART-TIME WORKERS -
By Industry
('000)



Hours Worked, Main Reason, and Conditions of Work

Almost 38 per cent of part-time workers worked from 20-35 hours. The proportion of males working 20-35 hours was slightly higher than for females; just under 41 per cent, compared to 37 per cent for women.

TABLE 3. PART-TIME WORKERS (a): HOURS WORKED BY SEX

Hours worked per week	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
1 less than 2	**	**	**	**	**	**
2 less than 10	3.2	27.6	11.1	27.9	14.3	27.8
10 less than 20	2.5	21.6	12.9	32.4	15.4	30.0
20 less than 35	4.7	40.5	14.7	36.9	19.4	37.7
35 or more	*1.1	9.5	*0.9	2.3	2.0	3.9
Total	11.6	100.0	39.8	100.0	51.4	100.0

(a) Worked in, or were working in, a job where the usual hours of work were one or more but less than 35 per week. Includes part-time workers who worked at any time during the twelve months ending October 1990.

Almost a third of part-time workers gave "only wish to work part-time" as the main reason for part-time work. Thirty-eight per cent of women part-time workers gave this as the main reason.

- The next most common main reason was "only such work available". Forty-four per cent of men gave this as a main reason and 22 per cent of women.
- Twenty-one per cent of women gave "to combine domestic duties and work" as the main reason for working part-time. For men the proportion was under five per cent.
- Under two per cent of part-time workers gave "cost/availability of childcare" as the main reason for part-time work.

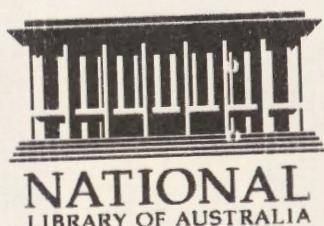
TABLE 4. PART-TIME WORKERS (a): CONDITIONS OF WORK

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<i>Conditions of work</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Eligible for:			
Paid sick leave	1.4	9.6	11.0
Paid holiday leave	1.5	9.5	11.0
Long service leave	1.5	12.1	13.6
Workers' compensation	6.9	30.6	37.4
Study leave	*0.4	3.8	4.2
Over-time	4.0	17.7	21.7
Bonus payments	*0.7	2.3	2.9
Superannuation	2.3	15.9	18.1
On-the-job training	3.7	16.7	20.4
Off-the-job training	**	5.5	5.8
Award coverage	2.6	10.1	12.7
Paid leave loading	*0.9	6.7	7.6
Career opportunities	1.3	8.8	10.2

(a) Worked in, or working in, a job where the usual hours of work were one or more but less than 35 per week. Includes part-time workers who worked at any time during the twelve months ending October 1990.

- Just on 73 per cent of part-time workers reported that they were eligible for workers' compensation. Only 59 per cent of male part-time workers reported eligibility for workers' compensation, whereas 77 per cent of female part-time workers indicated eligibility.
- Thirty-five per cent indicated eligibility to join employers' retirement benefit or superannuation scheme.
- Forty-two per cent of part-time workers indicated that they were entitled to overtime payment.



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The ABS conducts a monthly labour force survey each month to determine the labour force characteristics of the civilian population. As well as the standard labour force questions asked each month, in most months supplementary questions on other topics are asked.

In October the supplementary topic is set aside for State-specific topics proposed by State agencies. The supplementary topic for October 1990 for Tasmania was the nature and conditions of part-time employment. Part-time work, for the survey, was defined as 1 hour to 35 hours per week. The survey sought information about type of work done, industry, conditions attached to the part-time work (e.g. holidays, sick leave), pay, pay periodicity, reasons for part-time work, and what the person did before on part-time work.

The survey

Scope of the survey was the same as the regular monthly labour force survey. For detailed information about sampling method refer to the explanatory notes in "The Labour Force, Australia", Catalogue no. 6203.0.

Respondents for the survey were any responsible adults. Any responsible adult is a member of the selected household aged 15 years and over.

The coverage of the survey was all persons aged 15 years and over who were:

- in scope of the monthly labour force survey; and
- engaged part-time at the time of the survey; or
- in the 12 months up to survey had been engaged in part-time work.

Data items

Data items in this publication are based on responses to the questions asked in the survey. There are additional unpublished tables to those contained in this publication.

Reliability of estimates

Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error. They are:

- (a) *Non-sampling error*: inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers and errors made in processing. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it is a sample or a full count. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful

design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

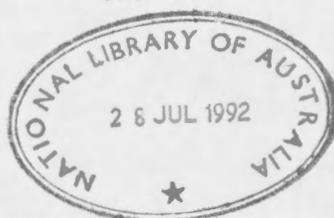
(b) *Sampling error*: Since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error. This indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings were selected. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained had all dwellings been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference would be less than two standard errors. Another measure of sampling reliability is the relative standard error. This is the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard error is a useful measure. It provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and this avoids the need to refer also to the size of the estimate.

Size of the standard error increases with the level of the estimate. The larger the estimate the larger the standard error. However, the larger the estimate the smaller the relative standard error i.e. the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Hence, larger sample estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.

In this publication estimates with a relative standard error of 50 per cent or more have been suppressed. Such estimates are too unreliable for most reasonable purposes.

Table of Standard Errors.

Size of estimate	Standard error	Relative standard error (%)
100	80	80
300	150	50
500	200	40
1000	280	28
2000	380	19
4000	510	13
10000	730	7
20000	920	5



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